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GERMAN RESISTANCE CHECKS RED ARMIES IN IMPORTANT AREAS

Attempts By Soviet Formations To Break Through Lauban And Guben Foiled

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—Important changes have not taken place during the last 24 hours on the Eastern Front. The day was marked by successful German defensive fights and stiffened resistance by the German defenders of important front sectors. In spite of heavy attacks strongly reinforced with tanks near Schwarzwasser, Ratibor and south of Breslau the Soviets could not achieve successes due to tenacious German resistance.

The Soviet attacks which were made from the southwest of Kanth against the German main fighting line failed before they reached the German lines. Some Soviet formations were sealed off in counter-thrusts. Likewise attempted break throughs made between Lauban and Guben failed. The Soviets could gain no ground there.

In South Pomerania between Pyritz and Arnswalde only few Soviet attacks were made, but they failed in the German barrage. Heavy fighting in Tucheler Heath and west of the Vistula continued to be the particular critical focal point on the Eastern Front, as the German military spokesman declared this noon. With undiminished strength the Soviets are attempting to break through to the north with the immediate objective of getting Dirschau an important traffic center into their possession. Newly-rushed up German reserves were thrown into the fighting against the Soviet forces so that in a hard fighting lasting for 24 hours the Soviets were unable to score any breaches worth mentioning.

Attack Seen as Imminent

During the past 24 hours only battles on both outside wings are of operative importance in the fighting on the Eastern Front unless one would conclude from the lively activity of Marshal Zhukov's offensive front between Crossen and Kuestrin that the expected frontal attack against the German capital is imminent.

On the southern wing the German operation against the Gran bridgehead has been generally concluded. Here the Soviet High Command wanted to repeat active operations out of its Baranov bridgeheads. Considerable forces had been assembled in spread-out bridgeheads comprising only 40 kilometers in an effort to dash from here into Pressburg plain and beyond to Vienna in an offensive which most likely was to be coordinated with the thrust from the Maehrisch-Ostrau area into the protectorate and to Prague and with the frontal attack from the Oder-Warthe rivers against Berlin. This point of the projected offensive into the heart of Germany was frustrated in the last three days by the German troops. Splitting up, narrowing down and smashing up of this large Gran bridgehead has now been followed by complete cleaning out of this base as far as south of the Danube.

The fight for Breslau and actions against Konev's spearheads between Lauban and Guben are being continued tenaciously. North of Kuestrin the situation did not change. The German barrier positions southeast of Stettin in the course of active defensive fighting are holding down the advance of Zhukov's forces.

Soviet Operation Smashed

Lively was the fighting in West Prussia on both sides of the Vistula where the Soviet pressure in the battle against the Danzig and Gotenhafen was again and again smashed by the German counterattacks. This German initiative in defense becomes also rather conspicuous for Koenigsberg where the Soviet forces which were destined to capture Pillau via Samland were engaged and smashed simultaneously, in their deployment areas of Fischhausen and Koenigsberg. The Soviet operation was thus smashed before it has been started.

The new battle in Courland is of greater operative importance. The Soviet attacks near Libau carried out on a wide front on the first day of the offensive neither could achieve breakthroughs nor important penetrations. But the fact of this renewed attack proves how important this German threat in the back of the Soviet troops is considered by the Soviet High Command.

Major Assault Launched

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—The Soviets are launching a major assault southeast of Libau on a broad front with strong infantry and armored forces. Attempts to break through toward Libau were beaten off at the main battle line after destroying 38 tanks and 28 planes.

London Raid Disaster Demolishes One-Third Of Standing Buildings

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—Buildings covering 164 acres were destroyed in air raids in the city of London out of the total of 460 acres of the built-up land while 417 high explosive bombs fell on the city together with 13 parachute mines, 2,498 oil bombs and many thousand incendiaries, it was disclosed today in the Civil Defense report. It also added that the number of persons killed up to the end of February, 1944 was more than 200,000 with 363,000 seriously injured and 792,000 slightly hurt, according to a dispatch from London. From the outbreak of war on Sunday, September 3, 1939 to the end of February, 1944, an aggregate period of nine weeks has been spent under air raid "alert" conditions, the dispatch concluded.

BRITISH LOSSES HEAVY IN FIGHTING NEAR GOCH

Germans Expect Enemy to Start New Offensive in Aachen Sector in Near Future

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—The British-American offensive operations in the northern corner of the Meuse and the lower Rhine have been considerably hindered by unfavorable weather conditions in the last 24 hours. Heavy rainfalls have made the roads almost impassable. In spite of the lack of air support the British-Canadian troops continued their attacks particularly in the region of Goch. Stiff German resistance compelled the British-Canadians to throw in two more divisions into the battle. After three hours of artillery bombardment on the German positions in the Niers valley the British armored formations launched a thrust in a southerly direction from this region, which was checked, however, by the German counter-attacks. Forty-three British tanks were destroyed mostly in the fighting at close quarters and 268 prisoners were taken.

The enemy advanced only about 20 kilometers between the Maas and the lower Rhine in the last 14 days.

Fighting now in progress on the Western Front, however, presumably is merely a prelude to a new big battle. There can be hardly any doubt that the enemy will launch a new offensive in the Aacchen sector in the very near future. Actions south of Goch are hardly more than local or diversionary actions. The region east of Forbac was again the scene of hard fighting in the last few days.

The Germans put up a grim opposition and shattered southwest of Fronsfeld and between Vianden and Echternach all attacks by the Americans for a breakthrough. Between Grevemmacher and Remisch weak American forces succeeded in crossing the Moselle and in forming a wide bridgehead. They were met by heavy German fire which inflicted great losses on them. The remainder of the bridgehead was compressed by the German counterattacks.

Assaults by the American troops in the past 24 hours were directed against Saarlautern and Forbach, but they broke down before reaching the main fighting line. Fierce fighting is taking place south of Spichern. East of Saargemuend the American attacks near Obergsbach and Erschingen failed.

German Nation Praised

Domei

GENEVA, February 21.—"The Germans are a determined and steadfast nation and are able to endure great sufferings," stated Frederick Voigt in the Nineteenth Century magazine. "The front and home in Germany are completely intact," he said. "The German workmen are not under the influence of international or anti-German ideas while the armed forces of the Third Reich are not split up by class hatred. The German army has democratic character and there is no great difference made between officers and noncoms."

PARIS PRESS SUPPORTING DE GAULLE'S FIRM STAND

French Want to Be Treated As People of Great Power; Eden to Visit France

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 21.—The debate on the refusal of General Charles de Gaulle, President of the Provisional French Government, to meet President Roosevelt in Algiers has spread to the Paris Press. With the lifting of the censorship ban, there is much public discussion, and the French leader is being mildly criticized. However, the press and most Frenchmen believe that De Gaulle is justified in refusing to meet Roosevelt. They feel that they are a people of a great Power and want to be treated as such, according to a Paris dispatch.

Last night the Paris Radio issued a statement on why De Gaulle did not accept Roosevelt's invitation. It was explained that Roosevelt after saying he would be unable to visit Paris suggested Algiers as a meeting place. De Gaulle replied to Jefferson Caffery, U.S. Ambassador in Paris, that he was pleased that Roosevelt intended to visit the French port, but he had been taken by surprise and the invitation had come at a time when many affairs demanded his presence in Paris.

Meanwhile, a London dispatch said that Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, will visit France to discuss with De Gaulle certain aspects of the Crimea communique.

Discovers Plot Against France

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—Commenting on the refusal of General Charles de Gaulle, President of the Provisional Government of France, to see President Roosevelt in Algiers, the Wilhelmstrasse declared today that the reason for this was that De Gaulle had found out that at the negotiations held by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in Cairo it was planned to deprive France of her position in the Near East and furthermore that this area would become an Anglo-American sphere of interest exclusively.

Meanwhile, local political circles declared that there exist a difference of opinions and jealousy between Britain and the United States on the Near East issue.

Continuing, they said that the numerous discussions which Roosevelt and Churchill had with various leaders of the Arabian countries during their return from the Crimea Conference show exactly the extent of their interests on the Arabian issue.

Bidault Makes Report

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—Georges Bidault, Foreign Minister of the Provisional French Government, on Tuesday reported to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Consultative Assembly on the Crimea Conference and on the attitude his Government intends to take toward the various problems dealt with at this conference, according to a Paris report. Bidault pointed out that the French Government intends unreservedly to participate in the international security and peace system, the report added.

Meanwhile it is reported from London that the Daily Mail, replying to the request of France and other European nations for equal rights, declared that "it must be admitted that the power is in the hands of the so-called 'Big Three,' and it is their right to make decisions on important questions." The paper emphasized that most of the liberated nations are passing through political chaos and are not able to support actively the agreements discussed at Yalta.

Yanks Getting Pessimistic

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 21.—Life in the United States has become more warlike during the last few weeks, reports the New York correspondent of Svenska Dagbladet. Optimism shown last summer and autumn has disappeared and impressed by official measures the people are preparing for a long duration of the war. The correspondent calls the German counterattack of December the turning point when the war effort was intensified. He added that production for civilian purposes were reduced, horse and dog racing forbidden, and the closing time for places of entertainment at midnight more rigidly enforced.

27 Heroes of Shinpu Special Attack Corps Granted Posthumous Promotion by 2 Ranks

Twenty-seven members of the Second, Fourth and Fifth Shinpu Special Attack Corps were posthumously raised two ranks, it was announced by the Navy Ministry on February 23. Citations had been issued to these Units previously by Admiral Soemu Toyoda, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Japanese Fleet.

The Shinpei, Shinbu, and Tenpei Units of the Second Shinpu Special Attack Corps were cited on December 15 for their death-defying ramming attacks on the enemy fleet off the coast of Tacloban and Davao during the period of October 29 to November 21 of last year. The Katori, Kashima, Kanzaki and Shinbu Units of the Fourth Shinpu Special Attack Corps also received their citations the same day. Citations for the Fifth Shinpu Special Attack Corps were issued on December 20.

The names of the air heroes receiving special promotions are: Sublieutenants Isamu Fujimoto, Kazuo Tsuchiya and Tadashi Tanabe raised to the rank of Lieutenant Commander, Second Sublieutenant Taro Kudo and Tadayoshi Kato to the rank of Lieutenant, Flight Warrant Officer Masaki Yoshida to the rank of Sublieutenant, Superior Flight Petty Officer Tatemasa Ito the rank of Second Sublieutenant. There were also 19 other promotions.

On November 6 the Katori, Kashima and Kanzaki Units of the Fourth Shinpu Special Attack Corps inflicted a considerable blow upon the enemy task force on the eastern waters off Luzon Island while the Shinpei and Tenpei Units of the Second Shinpu Special Attack Corps sank two cruisers (or one warship and one cruiser) while setting ablaze one destroyer on the waters southeast of Tacloban about 9:30 p.m. on November 10.

In the wake of these achievements, the Fifth Shinpu Special Attack Corps caught up with and attacked four regular aircraft carriers which comprised the main body of the enemy task force in the northeastern sea off Davao around 9:10 p.m. on November 21.

Ramming Carried Out
By S. ONODA
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT.—The Tenpei, Shinpei, and Shinbu Units of the Second Shinpu Special Attack Corps contacted an enemy task force in the eastern part of the Surigao Strait, at 9:30 a.m., November 1, when one plane of the Tenpei Unit rammed into an enemy cruiser, and another of the same unit also rammed into a cruiser or a battleship, while a bomb launched by one of the covering machines hit a destroyer. It has also been confirmed that one plane belonging to other units of the Special Attack Corps, which were operating about the same time over Leyte Bay, sank an enemy cruiser by ramming, and another plane rammed into a destroyer.

On the afternoon of October 28, the Tenpei, Shinpei, and Shinbu Units were organized, with these illustrious names, Captain K. commanded the three units, with Lieutenants Fujimoto and Tsuchio as unit leaders. The members of these units were waiting impatiently for the opportunity to emulate the exploits of the Chuyu, Giretsu, Junchu, Shisei, and Seichu Units. The ceremonies for the naming and the send-off of the three units were personally conducted by a Commander.

PAN-AMERICAN MEETING STARTS IN MEXICO CITY

Padilla Appointed Chairman; Outlines 3 Major Issues Set for Discussion

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—The Pan-American Foreign Ministers' Conference to discuss problems of war and peace opened in Mexico City today, according to a report from that city.

Mexican Foreign Minister Ezequiel Padilla was elected chairman of the conference after he had been nominated by the chief of the Bolivian delegation and his nomination was seconded by Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State.

Padilla said that the three major issues to be discussed at the conference will be the world security organization, the reorganization of inter-American affairs to fit into the new world organization and economic solidiarity of the Western Hemisphere.

A request that the Argentine question be given number one position on the agenda was made by the head of the Paraguayan delegation but at the request of the Mexican Foreign Minister, the Paraguayan motion was refused and it was decided to consider the problem after the others had been considered.

Today's conference saw the selection of various committee heads. Brazilian Foreign Minister Pedro L. Velloso was chosen chairman of the Committee on War Problems; Stettinius, chairman of the Committee Dealing with The Dumbarton Oaks Talks; Colombian Foreign Minister Dario Echandra, chairman of the Committee for Inter-American Problems Related to the World Organization; Cuban Foreign Minister Gustave C. R[illegible]o chairman of the Committee of Postwar Economic Problems; and the head of the Uruguayan delegation as chairman of the Coordination Committee.

Yesterday, 51 members of the United States delegation arrived in Mexico City for the conference. Stettinius, who had been visiting Brazil following his trip to Crimea, arrived by plane from Rio de Janeiro in company with Brazilian Foreign Minister Velloso.

Found Guilty of Forgery

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 21—John Prescott Mallet, prominent British prisoner and formerly a member of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's staff, has arrived in London from India, according to a dispatch from London. Found guilty of embezzlement, forgery and betrayal of the confidence placed in him by the British war authorities, Mallet was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by the British military tribunal in Delhi. Documents had been forged in the name of five British officers by Mallet.

TSUSHIMA IS APPOINTED NEW FINANCE MINISTER

Succeeds Ishiwata Who Is Given Posts Vacated by Hirose Who Has Resigned

Hisatada Hirose, Minister of State and concurrently Chief Cabinet Secretary, has tendered his resignation, and Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso has decided to appoint as his successor Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata, while Juichi Tsushima, President of the North China Development Company, has been named as the new Finance Minister, the Board of Information announced on Wednesday.

At 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon Prime Minister Koiso proceeded to the Imperial Palace and recommended to the Throne the new changes in his Cabinet personnel, and at 7:30 p.m. the ceremony of the Imperial Appointment of Finance Minister Tsushima, and Minister of State and Chief Secretary of the Cabinet Ishiwata was held in the Imperial Palace, the Board of Information added.

The new Finance Minister hails from Kagawa Prefecture and is 57 years old. Graduating with honors from Tokyo Imperial University in 1911, he entered the Finance Ministry. He was secretary to Finance Ministers Shoda, Takahashi, and Ichiki.

In 1927 he went to Europe, and upon his return home in 1934, he was made Director of the Finance Bureau. In July, the same year, he became Finance Vice-Minister under Finance Minister Fujii. He retired from the Ministry upon the collapse of the Cabinet in 1936. In February, 1937, he became the Vice-Governor of the Bank of Japan. In November, 1941, he succeeded Okinori Kaya as the president of the North China Development Company.

In a press interview given at his official residence on Wednesday evening, the new Finance Minister asked for the cooperation of the people for the successful execution of war time financial measures.

"I have been away from the Finance Ministry for about 10 years, and for three years and four months I have endeavored in North China to increase the fighting strength of Greater East Asia," he said. "From my experiences, I believe that we must enforce strongly the already decided measures for smoothly effecting increased production and also for realizing an improved transportation system. It is on this point that the cooperation of the people is asked for. Furthermore, under the present urgent situation it is necessary to utilize the total strength of Japan, Manchoukuo and China for increasing our fighting strength.

"Respecting the personnel of the Finance Ministry, I will confer with the former Minister, and then, regarding currency and financial measures, I wish to draft my plans after consulting the officials of the Ministry."

On Wednesday evening, the new Finance Minister broadcast an address to the public, in which he also asked for the wholehearted cooperation of the people for increased production of planes and other urgently needed war weapons, and also for the maintenance of wartime economic order.

PITCHED BATTLE RAGING IN MANILA, OTHER AREAS

Both Japanese and Enemy Forces Fighting for Every Inch of Ground

By I. INAGAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE BASE, February 21.—The battle now raging on Luzon Island is a pitched battle, with both Japanese and enemy forces fighting for every inch of ground. While our units continue their defense within the old walled fort of Manila, Rizal Park, and McKinley barracks, the enemy in spite of repeated setbacks, tenaciously continues his attacks.

On February 18 our units stationed at McKinley launched attacks on the northern banks of the Pasig River amidst raining bullets and gunfire, while embittered fighting unfolded on Corregidor Island, in concert with the fierce combats centering around Manila.

In the meantime, units of both our Army and Navy achieved great war results in Mariveles Bay by sinking one cruiser and two submarines, besides other enemy warships.

On the other hand, in Baguio, some distance from the main fighting sector, air raids continue persistently, with 310 enemy planes comprised mostly of SBD planes, P38's and P40's appearing over the streets of the mountain resort in the space of one week in the middle of February.

The enemy tactics never vary, no matter where or when. If they see people, they fire upon them and when they see any moving vehicle, they fire upon these, so that countless innocent Filipinos have suffered with loss of lives or have been seriously wounded. And this is not all. On February 17 when several thousand raid victims were taking refuge in a church, they were bombed, and many died or were injured. Furthermore the enemy now make even hospitals their target, so that hardly any are left standing intact. However, with each and every blind bombing raid carried out by the enemy, the fighting spirit of the people of the island is intensified.

Attacks Terrify Yanks
By H. HIRAYAMA
Of the Military Press Corps

LUZON FRONT, February 19.—The morale of the Japanese Garrison in Manila composed of Army and Navy Forces working in perfect unison, rose higher at the news of the commencement of a counterattack by a fresh powerful Japanese Unit from a point northeast of Manila.

Striking terror into the enemy midst by closing-in action by which they relentlessly exacted heavy sacrifices of blood, this powerful Unit swiftly took the initiative in operations against the enemy.

The battle within the city of Manila continues to rage on the southern bank of the Pasig River, on the broad road traversing the city from north to south, and in the Greater East Asia Street.

Lieutenant XX, putting himself at the head of a strong closing-in party, advanced toward the enemy on February 15 and in a hand-to-hand fight on the north side of the Greater East Asia Street, inflicted a heavy blow on the enemy. Having chased the fleeing enemy as far as the Pasig River, he is now bringing increased pressure to bear upon its position.

Enemy Strengthens Position

In the Pasay area south of Manila the enemy is bringng up more and more troops to strengthen its position over the entire beach with the Polo Club as the center, often coming to attack with tanks and armored cars.

The Japanese Army and Naval Garrison Units effect counterattacks whenever there is opportunity, and by these attacks and by the closing-in actions carried out both by day and by night, they are successfully holding their ground.

Even civilians in the Army and Navy are fighting with rifles at the side of our soldiers in the closing-in parties.

Two civilians in the service of the transport department of the Navy, were allowed to join the closing-in party that went into action on the night of February 8.

Secretly making their way into the enemy's position near the Malacanan Palace, they remained there for seven days during which they watched the movements of the enemy. They further distinguished themselves by cutting down five enemy soldiers.

Upon returning to their Unit on February 15 the first thing they did was to present to their comrades a souvenir of an enemy rifle and a bayonet.

The enemy in Manila, menaced by the Japanese Unit which is about to make a thrust at it from the rear and by the Japanese attacking it from within the city, and checked at every point in the city since February 15, is now finding it necessary to correct its statement to the world about being able to capture Manila by the end of the week.

ENEMY'S LOSSES HEAVY IN YIOJIMA OPERATIONS

Greatest Casualties Since Beginning of 'Island Hopping' Drive in Pacific

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—The United States forces suffered by far the greatest casualties in the current landing operations on Yiojima Island ever since the beginning of the "island-hopping" operations in the Pacific.

In its war communique issued today, the headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet on Omiyajima Island is quoted by a Washington dispatch to the effect that within 48 hours since the beginning of the landing operations on Yiojima Island, about 3,650 members of the U.S. Marines have been either killed, wounded or missing, of whom 150 are officers.

Inasmuch as the U.S. military authorities have never announced the exact number of casualties suffered by the U.S. forces, the foregoing numbers obviously seem to be understated. Nevertheless, these figures show that the American forces have suffered unprecedented casualties in the Yiojima operations, for the total casualties sustained in the course of Tarawa landing operations were given by U.S. authorities as aggregating 2,950, while the Tinian operations cost them 1,829 casualties and those suffered in the Marshall Group totaled 2,249.

A United Press dispatch said that the losses suffered by the U.S. Marines on Yiojima have already exceeded those sustained in the course of each landing operation on Tarawa Islands, the Marshall Islands and Tinian Island. The report added that the rate of casualties was remarkably greater than those of Saipan and the Guam operations.

12,929 U.S. Casualties

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—The total casualties, including the dead, wounded and missing for the U.S. Army in the six weeks since the commencement of the Luzon operations were announced today as 12,929 by the U.S. War Department, according to a Washington dispatch.

Lone B-29 Bombs Nagoya

One B-29 dropped some bombs over Nagoya at 7 p.m. on February 21. Another bomber appeared over Shizuoka shortly after 6 p.m. the same day while one lone B-29 flew over the southern part of Kyushu at 4 a.m. the next day. No explosives were dropped.

B-29's Over Chosen

Two B-29's coming from the direction of South Manchoukuo penetrated into western Chosen in the vicinity of Shingishu at about 10 a.m. Thursday and flying southward passed over the northern and southern parts of the Keijo area and then fled toward the western waters at 11:40 a.m., it was announced by the Headquarters of the Chosen Army.

Greek Interior Head Quits

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, February 21.—Greek Premier General Nicholas Plastiras has accepted the resignation of the Greek Interior Minister, who disagreed with the Government's decision to release the police force from his jurisdiction.

2 ENEMY CARRIERS SUNK, 3 WARSHIPS BLASTED AT YIOJIMA

Enemy Positions Bombed; Nippon Submarines Sink 1 Cruiser in Mindanao Sea

The Second Mitate Unit of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps sank two American aircraft carriers in an attack on the enemy surface forces around Yiojima on the afternoon of February 21, the Imperial Headquarters revealed in its Communique issued at 4 p.m. on Thursday.

Japanese Garrison Forces on the island witnessed the sinking of one U.S. warship of unidentified category, the damaging of two others as well as 10 pillars of flames, in addition to the sinking of the two aircraft carriers, the same communique revealed.

In cooperation with the attacks made by the Garrison Forces on Yiojima, Japanese Air Units on the night of February 21 strafed and bombed the enemy's positions and inflicted heavy losses on the invaders, the communique further disclosed.

Japanese Submarines sank one heavy enemy cruiser in the Mindanao Sea on February 21, the communique added.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
4 p.m., February 22

"1. Scores of the Second Mitate Unit of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps attacked enemy surface units around Yiojima on the afternoon of February 21 and sank two aircraft carriers.

"Besides the above, the Garrison Forces on Yiojima witnessed the sinking of one warship of unidentified category as well as two others heavily damaged and set ablaze, besides 10 pillars of flames.

"2. In cooperation with the attacks of our Garrison Forces on Yiojima, our Air Units strafed and bombed the enemy's positions on the island on the night of February 21 and inflicted heavy losses.

"3. Our Submarines sank one large enemy cruiser in the Mindanao Sea on February 21."

Make Surprise Attacks

Backed by 100-odd warcraft, including battleships, the American forces that landed on Yiojima on the morning of February 19 continue to make their stubborn thrust into the Japanese positions and the first firing line now extends from the south wharf to Chidorigahama Beach through the northern corner of Chidori airfield and Chidori village in the center of the island where bitter fighting is now raging.

Under the cover of fierce, fleet bombardments and aerial bombings the enemy troops that approached the foot of Mount Suribachi are continuing to attack the Japanese Forces which are strongly holding their positions while launching severe counterattacks.

On various fronts, Japanese artillery is continuing to shell the enemy troops who are suffering heavy losses. Violent shock attacks are also being made by the Japanese at every point and, in particular, a surprise attack was made on the enemy at the southern side of the south airfield. From the night of February 20 to daybreak the next day, Japanese Raiding Units attacked the enemy's positions at various landing points on the southern coast of the island, blasting many supply and ammunition dumps.

To Build 8 Plane Carriers

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—The United States Navy Department, announced today a plan for the construction of eight aircraft carriers, according to a Washington dispatch. The announcement follows: "The United States Navy has decided to construct eight additional aircraft carriers for convoy purposes at a total expenditure of [illegible]. The ships will be laid down at the Kaiser Dockyard in Vancouver, State of Washington. The work will be commenced upon the completion of [illegible] transports now under construction at the yard."

[illegible] IN LIVING STANDARD OF BRITISH IS PREDICTED

Sumner Welles Says Postwar Condition Will Have Little Resemblance to 1939

[illegible]

United States and Canada at least there would not seem to be any immediate danger of the interest charges on debt absorbing such a large proportion of the national income as to disturb their economies seriously.

"Even if the war were to continue for a year or two more, postwar interest to national income ratio would be considerably lower for the United States than the prewar ratios of the United Kingdom and Canada, and that of Canada might well be smaller than before the war.

Postwar Outlook Unfavorable

"For the United Kingdom, however, the postwar outlook is not so favorable. The fact that interest payments are already so large, combined with other factors, such as the loss of taxable income due to the liquidation of large amounts of British investment abroad, suggests that the United Kingdom will have to maintain a high level of postwar taxation for purposes of debt service alone.

"The maintenance of all these relationships will depend, of course, upon the continuation of high levels of national income and the continuation of low interest rates. The taxable capacity will depend upon the character of the tax structure.

"The risk which the bulletin appears to envisage for this country can be escaped, or at least greatly mitigated, by adjusting the tax structure in order to increase the incentive to new investment, or as and when the business situation demands its propensity to consume.

"How this might be contrived is a pressing problem.

"Another interesting sidelight on wartime borrowing is thrown by the bulletin on the "breakdown" of the terms on which the debt was created.

"Short-term borrowing predominated in all three, but especially in this country.

"Thus over 63 per cent of the total increase in marketable issues in the United Kingdom fell in the class due within five years against 56.7 per cent in the United States and 46.7 per cent in Canada. The United Kingdom previously had much the smallest percentage of short-term debt.

Though each country succeeded in lowering the average interest rate on its debt considerably since 1939, there remains a fairly wide dispensity if the average interest rate for the United Kingdom is reduced to as low as the United States for example. Then, the annual interest burden will be appreciably less."

Britain Given Inferior Machines

"The Daily Telegraph of January 9, reports that the majority of machines received from the United States are far inferior to those seen on sites in the United States. This opinion is expressed in a report of the United Kingdom opencast coal mission to the United States.

They add the inferiority of the machines taken in conjunction with the deplorable lack of spares for the existing equipment and imported machines forced them to the conclusion that it will be difficult to maintain production on an increasing scale during the next twelve months.

Another conclusion is "We believe that of the British equipment now used, at least one-third is incapable of further efficient production unless it is completely dismantled, rebuilt and equipped with essential spares.

Division of Colonies Of Italy Discussed At Crimea and Cairo

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 21.—The division of Italian colonies was decided at the Crimea Conference, says the London correspondent of the Swedish news agency Bulls, who added that this matter was one of the causes for discussions which Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt had in Cairo. Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia has demanded Eritrea, but on the other hand was willing to grant Britain's wish that the British and Italian parts of Somaliland be united. However, difficulties have arisen from the fact that France has demanded the railroad between Djibouti and Addis Ababa, but this problem will probably be solved together with other British French controversies.

Belittles Atlantic Charter

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 21.—Answering a Conservative member of the House of Commons who asked how far Article II of the Atlantic charter would be applied in the cases of Latvia, Lithuania, Esthonia and Poland, Prime Minister Churchill answered that the Atlantic Charter must be considered as a guide, not as a standard rule, says a London report. The aforementioned article of the Atlantic Charter states that the signatory Powers do not wish any territorial changes which are not in accordance with the will of the people, the dispatch added.

BERLIN CITIZENS BUILDING POWERFUL DEFENSE SETUP

Undaunted People of Reich Capital Calmly Await Final, Decisive Battle

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—A surprisingly calm atmosphere prevails in Berlin despite the fact that it is only 50 kilometers from the Oder area that has now become the center of fierce fighting.

With the bolstering of German resistance, the situation has become stabilized while all preparations for street fighting in Berlin have been completed. Thus the daily living of Berlin citizens has been restored to normal. Outwardly Berlin's streets have changed as the capital has become a fortified city. All roads running from surrounding villages to the center of Berlin where Government organs are located have been closed with barricades of stones and earth. Old tram cars filled with stones and earth are being used as barricades.

Members of the National Service Corps are constructing defense structures. They are using bricks gathered from the ruins of buildings destroyed in air raids. All policemen guarding important points throughout the city and the members of the National Service Corps are armed.

All the citizens of Berlin are expected to remain in underground rooms and cooperate in the city's defense. It is expected naturally that on such occasions the water and gas service will be suspended, but various measures to meet such a situation are now being planned.

The refugees that had come to Berlin from all directions, crowding railway stations and hotels, have now disappeared. In the central part of the city that was most severely hit by air raids, the electric and water service has been gradually restored. Cinema houses are full and tea rooms on main streets are crowded to capacity.

"Germany will continue the war and will fight until the enemy finds it impossible to attain his object without endangering his own existence—that is the key to victory," Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Reich Propaganda Minister declared in a recent issue of Das Reich.

Lead by the iron determination of their leaders, the people of Germany are showing no uneasiness at the present crisis. When a certain city is determined to fight to the end, and the army and people act together against the enemy, it is called a "fortress." Posen, Breslau, and Koehingsburg all became fortresses. Now, Berlin is about to become the final fortress.

It was on February 1, when the Red Army reached the shore of the Oder River, that the Germans started to build barricades in Berlin. The German capital with a population of 4,500,000 has become the final defense wall against the Red Army. For the construction of barricades, the citizens were mobilized and they worked willingly from morning to evening. As material for the construction work, iron from the buildings damaged in air raids, the ruins of automobiles and scrap material were skilfully utilized. As metals are freely used for heating apparatus and facilities in dwelling houses and other buildings, the people do not lack material.

When the Red Army entered the Silesia district, refuges stormed into Berlin with the result that some confusion was caused, but as steps have been taken to look after the welfare of these refugees there is no longer such confusion.

As one goes eastward out of the city, he can hear the roar of gunfire, but in the city, the people are very composed. It is because the citizens have utmost confidence in their leaders that even some children and women are remaining within the city. Preparations for making the capital a big fortress are progressing day and night—the city patiently and at ease is waiting for the final decisive battle.

Facts Worth Noting

Irish Free State

Dr. Douglas Hyde—President
Eamon de Valera—Prime Minister. Also Minister for External Affairs
Sean T. O'Kelly—Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister
Sean F. Lemass—Supplies Minister. Also Industry and Commerce Minister
Sean MacEntee—Minister for Local Government and Public Health
Dr. James Ryan—Agriculture Minister
Frank Aiken—Minister for Coordination of Defensive Measures
Thomas Derrig—Education Minister
Gerald Boland—Justice Minister
Oscar Traynor—Defense Minister
Patrick J. Little—Minister for Posts, and Telegraphs
Sean Moiran—Minister for Lands
Sean Gibbons—Attorney-General
Frank Fahy—Speaker of Lower Chamber (Dail Eireann)
Kevin Haugh—Chairman of Upper Chamber (Seanad Eireann)
William T. Cosgrave—President of United Ireland Party
Robert Brennan—Minister to U.S.
John J. Hearne—High Commissioner in Canada
John W. Dulanty—High Commissioner in London

Langer's Move Urging Chaplin's Deportation Blasted by Comedian

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—Charles Chaplin, noted movie comedian, last night in Hollywood denounced as political prosecution the recent legislation introduced by Senator William Langer, Republican of North Dakota, says a Washington dispatch. Langer's measure would direct the Attorney General to investigate Chaplin's affairs to determine whether he should be deported as an undesirable alien because of questionable moral conduct. It is recalled that Chaplin was acquitted last April of Mann Act charges that he had transported his former protege, Miss Joan Barry, to New York for immoral purposes. Last month, the charges that Chaplin was the father of Miss Barry's 16-month-old daughter, Carole Anne, resulted in a jury deadlock, and the case has been set for retrial on April 4.

REPORTS ON ARGENTINA SPIKED AS GROUNDLESS

Berlin Statement Also Points Out Germany Unaffected by Recent War Declarations

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—Rumors that Argentina had declared war on Germany, circulated recently by American and British propagandists, were scoffed at by the authorities of the German Foreign Office, who have today issued a statement reading as follows:

"The reports of Argentina's declaration of war on Germany are altogether groundless.

"The question of the exchange of diplomats between Germany and Argentina will be settled by diplomatic negotiations.

"Various small countries in Central and South America have lately followed one another in declaring war on Germany. It is manifest that this was the result of pressure exerted by America. These declarations of war will not produce any conceivable effect upon the general war situation. The German Government holds them in utter disregard."

Argentina Claims Recompense

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—The Argentine Government today announced that it has decided to demand of Germany reparation for two Argentine merchantmen which were sunk by German U-boats and another merchant ship damaged, as well as for their cargoes, says a Buenos Aires dispatch.

Argentine will also claim recompense for expenditure in connection with the internment of the crew of the German pocket battleship, Graf Spee, which was scuttled following engagements with British warships off Montevideo," the announcement added.

It may be recalled in this connection that the Argentine Government recently announced that Argentine-German relations had been strained because the Berlin Government refused to guarantee safe transit in Sweden of Argentine diplomats. Coming in the wake of this incident, the latest announcement which indicates Argentina's stiff attitude toward Germany is attracting much attention.

VENEZUELA SIGNS PACT

Affixes Signature to United Nations' Declaration

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—Venezuela today joined the ranks of the United Nations becoming the 41st nation to sign the United Nations' Declaration, according to a Washington report.

In a formal ceremony, the Venezuelan Ambassador went to the State Department and signed the document in the presence of members of the Venezuelan Embassy staff as well as the members of the State Department.

Joseph Grew, U.S. Undersecretary of State, welcoming Venezuela formally into the ranks of the United Nations, declared that "Venezuela had long ago lined itself firmly with us" by breaking off relations with the Axis and by taking effective measures to suppress Axis activities. He added that Venezuela has rendered and is rendering great contributions in the prosecution of the war.

U.S. Nurse's Bill Passed

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—A bill making nurses eligible for compulsory service with the United States navy was passed by the House Military Affairs Committee today, according to a Washington report. The measure is applicable only to unmarried nurses between the ages of 20 and 44. However, nurses with the Veterans Administration or those engaged in essential civilian nursing service will not be affected.

CHUNGKING PESSIMISTIC ABOUT STILWELL ROAD

New Route Will Not Enable Counteroffensive Moves Against Japan

Domei

CANTON, February 20.—The opening of the Stilwell Road will not enable Chungking to embark on any counteroffensive operations against Japan, stressed the Chung Shan Jih Pao which, managing to carry on in Shinhsien in the southwestern part of Kwangtung Province since the fall of Shaokwan, has been publishing lengthy reports on the Stilwell Road from the Myitkyina correspondent of the Central News Agency in Chungking.

The notable thing about the reports of this correspondent is that they emphasize in particular only that which augers ill for the future of the Road.

The reports may be epitomized as follows:

"What struck me when I arrived on the spot was that there was a strong body of opinion which was frankly pessimistic about the future of the Road.

"This school of thought holds that the opening of the Road has resulted in nothing more than to merely enable Chungking to continue the war of resistance. It is out of the question for Chungking to think of embarking on counteroffensive operations against Japan in consequence of the opening of the Road.

"The reasons advanced to support this view concerning the effect of the opening of the Stilwell Road on Chungking, are three:

"In the first place, the Stilwell Road is nearly 1,800 kilometers in length and is much longer than the old Burma Road over which not more than 20,000 to 30,000 tons of freight traveled a month even when the Road was in the best of conditions.

"Secondly, there is a deficiency of motor-trucks in India.

"Thirdly, the opening of the new road will not bring any benefit to the mass of the Chinese people.

"The statement, made by the American authorities immediately preceding the opening of the Stilwell Road that 'the Central India route is simply a military road and was not constructed for the promotion of the interests of the Chinese populace' seems to have offended Chinese susceptibilities to a great degree.

"Even the holders of optimistic views about the Stilwell Road have of late ceased to hope for any great things from the surface route. It is their belief that only when it is possible to work at the same time a surface and an air route connecting India and China may one be justified in pinning any hope of getting the huge piles of supplies for Chungking in India."

NAMING HULL AS CHAIRMAN

Ex-Secretary of State to Attend San Francisco Meeting

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—Cordell Hull, former U.S. Secretary of State, is expected to be elected chairman of the United Nations World Security Conference to be held in San Francisco on April 25, says a Washington report.

Meanwhile, Commander Harold Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota, who is on Admiral William Halsey's staff, has accepted his appointment as a delegate to the San Francisco conference. In accepting the post, Stassen emphasized that he favored a strong policy for the establishment of a permanent world peace.

Stassen, who is a much discussed possibility for a presidential candidate in 1948, will attend the conference while on leave from the armed forces and will participate as a civilian.

Discussing his appointment, Stassen said that because he is a Republican, his acceptance might prove to be a liability in 1948. He also said that before going to the San Francisco conference, he will confer with Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York and other Republican leaders.

Pushing New Asia Drive

Domei

HSINKING, February 20.—A resolution was adopted at the fourth national rally of representatives of the Concordia Association here today urging various organizations connected with the New Asia Movement to redouble their efforts in undertaking their vital mission and cooperate as one in the prosecution of the war. Identical telegrams of this resolution were sent to all organizations of the New Asia Movement in different parts of Greater East Asia, including the Imperial Rule Assistance Association in Japan, Chosen National Mobilization Federation, New People's Society of China, and the Kalibapi Society of the Philippines.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 21

Northwest of the Gran, grim fighting is taking place at the western part of the enemy bridgehead.

The Soviet efforts to break into our front at Schwarzwasser and north of Ratibor failed while their attacks south of Breslau were likewise shattered. The enemy's main pressure in lower Silesia was in the Lauban and Guben area where unsuccessful efforts to break through our front cost the Soviets heavy losses in men and tanks.

On the Oder between Fuerstenberg and Oderbruch, fighting flared up again yesterday and enemy reconnaissance thrusts were repelled. Between Pyritz and Arnswalde, individual Soviet attacks supported by tanks failed while in the Tuchel Heath and west of the Vistula every foot of ground is being contested. The defenders of Posen continue to offer stubborn resistance. Soviet attacks against the fortress of Graudenz were smashed.

Fighting in East Prussia continued at the former focal points with a strong employment of artillery and battleplanes. Our attacks in southern Samland, supported by our naval forces, scored further successes. Southeast of Libau the Soviets launched a large scale attack on a wide front but their breakthrough attempt toward Libau was checked in the main fighting line. The Soviets yesterday lost on the Eastern Front 152 tanks and 81 planes.

As already announced on February 20, our torpedo carrying air-force formations under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Stemmler made a surprise attack from out of the clouds during heavy seas and under difficult weather conditions against an enemy convoy sailing from Murmansk to Britain, and sank two light cruisers one of which belonged to the Leander class, two destroyers and eight ships totaling 57,000 tons. Furthermore three ships totaling 19,000 tons were hit so severely by torpedoes that their loss is certain. Despite the fierce enemy defense our formations lost only two aircraft.

In the west between the Rhine and Meuse, the continued heavy attacks by British and Canadian units failed also yesterday due to the stubborn resistance of our grenadiers and parachutists. The enemy lost 28 tanks and numerous prisoners. The American attacks between Pruem and Echternach have now also expanded to the western front of the salient. East of Vianden the enemy succeeded in gaining some ground in a northerly direction. In the river triangle between the Moselle and the lower reaches of the Saar, the enemy crossing attempts north of Remich were repulsed. Between the two rivers the American tank forces succeeded in entering more deeply into the defense system in front of the West Wall from a southerly direction.

In the area east of Forbach renewed enemy attacks were checked in front of the Spichern Heights.

In central Italy, thrusts by parts of the U.S. 5th Army north and northwest of Poretta failed in front of our positions and fighting is going on for the Monte Belvedere.

American terror formations at daylight bombed Nuremberg and Vienna. Especially in Nuremberg casualties and heavy damage in the residential quarters were caused. During the night the Reich capital, Dortmund and other localities in the Rhenish-Westphalian district were the target of British bombers. Our fighters and flak artillery shot down 73 enemy bombers most of which were four-engined bombers. Night fighters had a special share in this score.

The retalitaion fire on London is being continued.

Berut's Career Bared

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—According to the American magazine "Time," Boleslav Berut, President of the Soviet-supported Polish National Council, at Lublin, had been chief of the Polish section of the Comintern under the name of Bienkovski for 20 years and chief of the Polish section of the G.P.U. under the name of Rutkovski for five years. The name of Bierut of Berut represents a combination of the first syllables of these fictitious names of this Soviet official. His actual name is Kransnodembski. Referring to him, the Catholic Herald of London said that Berut is particularly well suited for the tasks to be solved in Poland. It stated that in his capacity of political commissar he organized the deportation of the Poles in 1939.

'FIGHT OR WORK' MEASURE REJECTED IN U.S. SENATE

Military Affairs Organ Ignores F.D.R.'s Indorsement; Studies Substitute Bill

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—The "Fight or Work" Bill passed by the House of Representatives has been rejected by the Senate Military Affairs Committee despite the new indorsement of it by President Roosevelt, according to a dispatch from Washington.

The Senate Committee is now considering a substitute service measure which was offered by Senator Joseph O'Mahoney, Democrat of Wyoming, and five other Senators. Senator Albert Chandler, Democrat of Kentucky, says that the new measure will be approved by the committee today.

The substitute bill authorizes the War Manpower Commission acting under the orders of War Mobilization James Byrnes, Director of the Office of War Mobilization, to establish a form of ceiling by age set for specified areas. The bill gives the WMC the power to regulate the hiring of new workers.

To Triple Induction Calls

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 21.—Major General Lewis Hershey, Director of the Selective Service Board, told the Draft Board that it would be necessary to triple the induction calls for men over 30 before the end of the year. Manpower requirements, for the armed forces, according to Hershey, will increase steadily during the next few months. He added that with the number of young men rapidly being depleted, it would be necessary to draft older men.

Predicting at first that only a limited number of young men would qualify, Selective Service now states that about one-third of the men under 30 may be deferred. War industries might lose 70 per cent of their young key men under 30 but no more than 70 per cent, it was added.

SEAT OF HO'S ARMY MOVED

Headquarters Shifted to Kunming to Meet Future Nippon Moves

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—Impatient to improve the war situation on the continent, Chungking has removed the headquarters of the Southwestern Army, under the command of General Ho Yin-chin to Kunming, and seems to be waiting for an opportunity to start a counteroffensive in South China, depending on the supply of arms and provisions by the recently opened Ledo road.

In an address delivered to the third graduating class of the Military School at Kunming on February 19, General Ho explained that the Japanese Army now possesses vast military strength, not only in Manchoukuo, but also on the China Continent, prepared to meet the possibility of the landing of the American army on the China coast.

"The establishment, at Kunming, of new General Headquarters of the Chungking army is to meet future developments consequent on the activity of the great Japanese strength," he continued. "Cooperating in the anti-Axis efforts, we have carried out a new distribution of troops and are planning a most effective offensive operation."

Reich Girl Praised

Domei

BERLIN, February 21.—The entire German press and radio today featured the 17-year-old German girl Miss Maria Schurtz from Monschau who, according to the Daily Telegraph war correspondent, told the Allied court martial that Germany will withstand all sufferings and will build up a new world. The Berlin press declares that the attitude of this German girl is characteristic of the attitude of the entire German youth.

EDEN, DIPLOMATS CONFER

Reveals Crimea Parley Talk to Leaders of 4 Nations

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden met a number of foreign diplomats from Tuesday afternoon till late at night to inform them personally for the first time about the Crimea Conference, according to a London report.

Foreign diplomats who called on Eden included the American Ambassador John Winant; Wellington Koo, Chungking; Rene Massigli, France; Count Edward Raczynski, Poland; former Premier Stanislav Mikolajczyk of the exile Polish Government in London, and former Polish Foreign Minister Tadeusz Romer.

Ambassador Koo learned for the first time something about the results of the Crimea Conference from Eden directly. Massigli's visit also was aimed at getting further information on the Yalta decisions, the report said.

Meanwhile, commenting upon the return to London of Prime Minister Churchill from Crimea, the Manchester Guardian declared: "It is noteworthy that Mr. Churchill is the first Allied leader to report to his people."

No Negotiation Made

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 21.—In the British House of Commons today, a Laborite member asked Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden if Eden had any information about the recent negotiations with the Soviet Union on the latter obtaining interest in the Suez Canal Company, to which Eden replied that he had no knowledge whatever of any such negotiations, according to a London report.

DESIRES TO VISIT MOSCOW

Mikolajczyk Eager to Aid in Setting Up New Polish Regime

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 21.—Stanislav Mikolajczyk, former Premier of the exile Polish Government in London, said today that he will go to Moscow to aid in the establishment of the new Polish Provisional Government of National Unity if he is invited by the "Big Three," according to a London report.

It said that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, who returned to London from the Crimea Conference, conferred with Mikolajczyk following and shortly after the latter made the statement.

Dissolving London Regime

Domei

BERNE, February 21.—The Daily Telegraph of London claims to have heard about the discussion which took place between British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Count Edward Raczynski, former Polish Foreign Minister, on Tuesday that the British Foreign Secretary has officially said that the recognition of the Polish exile Government in London would be withdrawn as soon as the new Polish Provisional Government of National Unity has been formed in Poland, according to a London report.

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[illegible] MANCHOUKUO POLICY [illegible] UP FIGHTING STRENGTH

[illegible] Reorganized, Conversion Of Machinery, Materials Effected to Attain Aim

The trials in the three years of the War of Greater East Asia have imparted a growing and tempered strength to Manchoukuo whose national foundations are increasingly being consolidated after 13 years since the birth of the nation. The expanding industrial structure of the nation frankly reveals this fact that Manchoukuo is forging ahead in her mission of maintaining peace on her northern borders, uniting and harmonizing the various races within the country and increasing her fighting strength. The road leading toward constructing an ideal society is only to be perceived in the thorough prosecution of the war by Manchoukuo. The road along which Manchoukuo must proceed [illegible] this year lies in concentrating her entire efforts in construction, increased production, defense and other sources directly connected with her fighting strength.

The basic national policy of Manchoukuo was determined by the government in December, 1942. This policy clarified basic measures concerned with the thorough prosecution of the war such as mobilizing the entire human and material resources within the country for this purpose. It indicated the immutable determination of the government to adopt positive measures in regard with national administration. The government expects thereby to foster and expand the politics, economics and national welfare of Manchoukuo.

Ever since the basic national policy of Manchoukuo was determined the government has been boldly executing measures along this line such as reforming the administrative structure, improving and simplifying methods of national management, strengthening the functions of special companies and organizations, adjusting administrative functions in rural districts, renovating the police organization, strengthening and supplementing finance, etc. The government has revised laws in this respect as well as adjusting personnel staffs. The creation of the rural councillor system, the appointments of Manchoukuoans from various strata of society to government posts and the simplification and strengthening of control structure and official routine have especially given an elastic character to wartime administration and great hopes are placed on its future management.

Various Reforms Carried Out

Various other measures have been carried out by the government such as promoting education and culture, improving people's welfare, adjusting the national labor structure, improving elementary, higher and university education, strengthening youth training, enacting the people's physical law and the medical organization law, establishing the Anti-Opium Society, creating the extraordinary budget for patriotic labor corps, formulating the decisive war labor mobilization executive plans, etc. The government still has a large number of problems which it must solve hereafter such as promoting the people's welfare which constitutes the foundations for increasing the nation's fighting strength and especially the problem concerned with labor control. These problems still remain as main ones in the measures for 1945 which are pending solution.

Basic problems concerned with the administration for increasing the nation's fighting strength and which will be considered by the government will be the people's labor organization, labor management, the betterment of labor productivity, training technicians and factory workers, wage policy, housing, sanitation, etc. In regard to the problem of promoting the industrial and economic structure, the government has drawn up emergency measures for agriculture, heavy and light industries and other departments, respectively, in accord with the program concerned with wartime urgent economic measures. A total mobile power has been displayed and great results have been accomplished especially in regard to increasing the area of cultivated land and the production of coal, iron, steel and aluminium through the management of the Urgent Production Increase Headquarters.

Change Made in Control System

Control methods have also been revised in regard to management of special companies and organizations in this connection. The Manchuria Coal Company has been reorganized, iron manufacturing companies amalgamated, hydraulic and caloric electric enterprises united in their management, the Forestry Product Company and the Textile Company [illegible], the Real Estate and Building Association reorganized, the Real Estate and Building Special Construction Organization established [illegible] Farm Product Company has [illegible] its activities. The one-company-one business principle has [illegible]. The functions of these companies have been renovated [illegible] strengthened and their public [illegible] has been clarified in this connection. Various wartime special laws and regulations have been enacted and made by the government in order to increase wartime production from the legal standpoint. The government has also been executing measures related with positive production by enacting extraordinary laws such as sanctions and permits.

However, the government must hereafter re-examine an appropriate and united management of human and material mobilization, the conversion and utilization of machinery and materials, the suitability of distribution, price and economics, the development and increased production of fisheries and forestry, the defense for factories, etc., as new measures.

New Measures for Defense

Manchoukuo must powerfully forge ahead toward realizing the aforementioned aims in the current fiscal year of decisive war. The biggest political problems confronting the Manchoukuo government and waiting for solution are: strengthening of the General Affairs Board-first principle, adjustment of the administrative structure and functions in order to crystallize the entire brains of respective departments, especially of the Department of Finance and Commerce, the formulation and execution of a new land program in order to mobilize the entire population and land of the country on a total basis, strengthening of the cooperative structure of areas adjacent to the nation, etc.

On the other hand, the government is facing the problem of defense, especially measures related with air defense, which have become a new requirement of the nation, with an extraordinary determination. Therefore, one can expect that various measures will be executed in regard to civilian air defense. Cooperation on the side of the people is an indispensable factor, in executing wartime measures. The government has been acquainting the people with true facts as much as possible and has been requesting the cooperation of the people up to the present time. The government has attached a weighty importance on nation-wide connections of the Concordia Association last year and has exchanged sincere and frank opinions with the Association.

A further heightened cooperation on the side of the people is required this year in regard to national administration in forwarding agricultural products, mobilizing labor, further adjusting the distribution structure, etc. Therefore, the responsibility of the Concordia Association will become ever-more weighty in this respect. It is the essential principle of politics to establish people's organization, to clarify the actual aims of administration, to formulate policies and to execute them on an impartial and accurate basis.

Thankful for Books, Japanese Internees Telegraph Red Cross

Telegrams of thanks and appreciation were received by the International Red Cross Committee and the Japan Red Cross Society from the Japanese internees in the United States and Canada for the books sent to them in October of last year by the Commission for Benefit of Japanese Subjects in Enemy Countries. The books numbering 4,270 volumes safely reached their destination in the middle of December. Grateful responses were also received in answer to Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu's New Year's message of encouragement to the Japanese nationals in enemy countries.

Posthumous Promotions

Posthumous promotions of service grades were announced on Wednesday by the Government for Teijiro Asahina, Consul at Swatow, who was killed in action in a plane while on his way to Canton on official business about the middle of January, and Yasumitsu Fukui, Consul at Macao, who was recently killed by terrorists. In the promotions, Mr. Asahina and Mr. Fukui were promoted to consul general and their official rank was raised to the Fourth Grade of the Higher Civil Service each.

Inventions by Prisoners

Many inventions, directly contributing to the nation's fighting power, have been brought into existence by the inmates of penitentiaries throughout the country and some of the outstanding ones have received honorable awards from the Director of the Legal Administration Bureau of the Justice Ministry, according to an article in the Nippon Sangyo Keizai.

Social and General

Honored with the presence of His Imperial Highness Prince Takamatsu, Patron of the Society, and Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamatsu, the fourth general meeting of the Japan-Italy Society will take place at the Peers' Club on February 26 from 11:30 a.m.

3RD ANNIVERSARY FETED OF OCCUPATION OF BALI

Garrison Holds Maneuvers—Islanders Observe Occasion As Day of Emancipation

Domei

SINGARADJA, February 19.—The third anniversary of the occupation of Bali Island by Japanese troops was celebrated by our garrison here today. From 5 a.m. our garrison held maneuvers which unreservedly revealed their preparedness. At 10 a.m. a memorial service for 19 officers and men, including Sub-Lieutenant Masutaro Yamazaki, as well as civilian employes who were killed in occupational operation was solemnized.

The memorial service held in front of the memorial tablet of the war dead was attended by the commander of our local garrison and other dignitaries including influential native inhabitants. Simultaneously the native inhabitants, observing this day as the day of their emancipation, gathered at their respective villages and celebrated the occasion. Our measure promulgated on February 17 whereby participation in the administration by the native inhabitants was expanded, served as a motive to further accelerate their war efforts.

It is learned that the native inhabitants passed a resolution to consolidate their support of Japan in the execution of the war. It is also revealed that increasing numbers of native youths on this day joined the Youths' Association in order to render their concerted efforts for the strengthening of the island's defense.

Asiatic Spirit Reawakened

Judicious Japanese guidance during the past three years has brought about the reawakening of the spirit of New Asia among the 1,330,000 people of Bali who are contributing fully toward bolstering Japan's fighting strength, Chief Administrator Koshino of the local administration declared today on the occasion of the third anniversary of the Japanese landing on Bali Island. He said that the three years which have passed since the landing of Japanese troops on the beautiful island of Bali have seen amazing changes throughout the island.

For 40 years, Mr. Koshino recalled, the Dutch who had completely subjugated the island, attempted the swift Westernization of Bali but the Balinese were the last of all the islanders of the East Indies to succumb to the Dutch imperialistic policy. Under Japanese guidance, for the past three years the spirit of New Asia has been reawakened among the Balinese and now the whole population, young and old, men and women, are unstintingly cooperating toward Japan's war effort, he said.

Mr. Koshino disclosed that the young men of Bali, numbering several tens of thousands, manifesting their desire to participate in territorial defense, have joined the Defense Corps and are burning with the determination to crush the enemy. Such a display of spirit among the local inhabitants to carry on the traditions of their ancestors is indeed reassuring, the Chief Administrator concluded.

YIOJIMA ISLAND DEPICTED

Hardships Multiplied by Enemy Air Raids, Says Diet Member

Naotomo Hamada, Diet member, who until his return home last October was on guard duty as a soldier on Yiojima Island for nearly eight months, has contributed an article about that island to the Tokyo Shimbun, upon learning of the landing of the enemy there.

He says in his article that he went to the island as a soldier in March last year and found that it was a large mass of rocks where there was no well water. The visit of a squall once a day is a great boon to the Japanese defenders there. They keep rain in empty barrels and drink it. This is their greatest recreation. The island, he said, was attacked by enemy carrier-borne aircraft for the first time in June last year apparently as a means to restrict Japanese operations, for preventing the enemy from landing on Saipan Island. Air raids had since been kept up daily and even bombardment was started on July 4.

Since the occupation of Saipan by the enemy the air raid had been the order of the day. Food and other supplies from the Japanese mainland grew scant in the circumstances, and mastery of the air secured by the enemy. Vegetables are grown, but enemy air raids had prevented Japanese soldiers from producing much, Mr. Hamada added.

Silver Drive Continues

Government purchase of silver will be continued until the end of March in Tokyo. The silver drive for the period of February 1 to 15 topped the mark with an excellent showing of 123 per cent. The specified places of purchase in Tokyo are the Nihonbashi Mitsukoshi Department Store, Ginza Matsuya Department Store, Ueno Matsuzakaya Department Store, Toyoko Department Store, Isetan Department Store and the Central Supplies Utilization Association.

News and Views

Roosevelt Humiliated

By KIYOSHI KOJIMA

It is difficult to imagine how exasperated that megalomaniac in the White House at Washington, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, must have been when he arrived at Algiers on his way back from the Yalta Conference not to find General Charles de Gaulle, President of the Provisional Government of France, there to greet him. Instead, there was U.S. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery from Paris to tell him that General de Gaulle was too busy with official business to accept the American President's invitation to meet him at Algiers.

That Roosevelt must have been fuming with anger when he arrived at this Mediterranean port can easily be deduced from the elated and proud frame of mind he must have been after meeting King Faruk of Egypt, Emperor of Abyssinia Haile Selassie and King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia on aboard a cruiser in the Suez Canal. Of King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, it was said that he had left his country for the first time, symbolic of the great honor he was doing President Roosevelt, solely for the purpose of meeting the latter. And now this refusal of General de Gaulle, the head of a provisional government allegedly "liberated" largely through the efforts of the American armed forces. Well, it was too much of a humiliation for the proud President of the United States to bear.

Appears Innocuous

Of General de Gaulle's failure to come to Algiers, the White House statement quoted Roosevelt as saying: "Questions of mutual interest and importance to France and the United States are pending. I wanted very much to see the General before leaving for home." Couched in suave diplomatic language, it appears innocuous." But the vindictive Roosevelt will not let it be so. Events to come will prove it. De Gaulle and the French people he represents will have to answer for it sooner or later.

That De Gaulle deliberately turned down Roosevelt's invitation is crystal clear from the fact that the invitation had been sent him from Yalta six days in advance of Roosevelt's arrival in Algiers. The General had more than ample time to go to Algiers. His rejection of the American President's invitation, which caused a world-wide sensation, was doubtlessly due to his resentment at not being invited to the "Big Three" Conference at Yalta. Even before the "Big Three" had left for the conference, the French press in Paris had clamored for General de Gaulle's participation in the talks in view of Washington and London pronouncements that France had been accepted in her previous role as a big Power. Some sections of the press in Britain and the United States, too, supported the French campaign to get De Gaulle a seat at the then projected "Big Three" meeting. In view of such circumstances, one can easily sympathize with the General's displeasure at not being invited.

Cannot Be Blamed

General de Gaulle, too, cannot be blamed for not going to Algiers because he had not been consulted in the "Big Three" Conference's plans for the "occupation" of Germany even if France had been invited to become a member of the Allied Commission to administer control over Germany. President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Churchill's visit to Egypt and their talks with Arab rulers and statesmen also were not to De Gaulle's liking in view of his claims for French privileges in Syria and Lebanon.

It is significant that these and other problems already are deteriorating the relations between the United States and France, and between Britain and France. And it must not be overlooked that General de Gaulle's rejection of Roosevelt's invitation to go to Algiers has already caused misgiving in the anti-Axis camp about the success of the so-called "United Nations" conference to be opened at San Francisco on April 25 for the establishment of a world security system.

2 More Quit IRAPA

Magozaemon Takano and Joshijiro Murasawa, members of the House of Representatives belonging to the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, tendered their resignations to the Association on Tuesday. This makes the total of those resigning from the Association to 11.

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YENAN MAY NOT ACCEPT CHIANG'S NEW PROPOSALS

China Reds Firm of Stand for Equal Rights in Government and in Army

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—Abolition of the despotic rule of the Chungking regime, establishment of a coalition government by the Chungking Government and Yenan with Chiang Kai-shek as the head, and the amalgamation of the Chungking and Yenan armies with both parties enjoying equal rights are reported to be the main points in the demands submitted by Yenan to Chungking, according to information from Chungking.

Yenan demanded that as a temporary supreme political organ there should be organized at once a congress formed of the Kuomintang, the Chinese Communist Party and the Democratic League of China (a group of small political parties), which will be given authority to plan the immediate establishment of a coalition government with Chiang as the head, abolishing the despotic rule of the Kuomintang, and with both Chungking and Yenan on an equal footing.

Yenan also demanded the amalgamation of the Chungking and Yenan armies with both parties enjoying equal rights.

Respecting the proposed Congress, Chungking is insisting that it should be only an advisory organ. In reply, Yenan declared that such an attitude shown by Chungking reveals that it is unwilling to give up its despotic rule.

Yenan also demanded that it should be allowed to participate in the Administrative Yuan, saying that while the Administrative Yuan is under the control of the Kuomintang, the wartime cabinet has no authority of decision.

As a prerequisite for the amalgamation of the Chungking and Yenan armies, Chungking is demanding that the reorganization of the Yenan army is to be undertaken by a joint committee formed of the representatives of the Chungking army, Yenan army and United States. But Yenan is opposed to this proposal, which it says is only a pretext for Chungking's intention of taking over the Yenan army, and thus Yenan is firm on its demand for equal rights and on its opposition to the proposal of forming a joint committee.

Judging from the above differences of views between Chungking and Yenan, it seems quite natural that Chou En-lai, Yenan's representative, on the eve of his departure from Chungking on February 14 hinted in his interview given to foreign newspapermen that there was no prospect of Yenan accepting Chungking's new counterproposal.

A United Press report from Chungking dated February 15 said: "Chou En-lai said that he would submit Chungking's new proposals to Yenan, but judging from his tone, there seems to be no prospect for the acceptance of the proposal by Yenan."

After pointing out that the Yenan-Chungking negotiations had hit another obstacle, the UP report further said that the future of the negotiations for settling the difference between Chungking and Yenan would be decided at the coming conference to be held in Yenan."

Giving Musical Concert

The Third Dai Toa Friendship Concert, sponsored by the Taigai Ongaku Iin-kai of the Nippon Musical Cultural Association, will be held on February 24 at 2 p.m. at the Kokusai Gakuyu-kai hall. The program will be a mezzo-soprano solo by Miss Futaba Takayanagi, with Toroku Takagi at the piano; accordion solo by Kazuo Shibusawa accompanied by Yoshikazu Kasamatsu, Contralto solo by Miss Nariko Sasaki accompanied by Miss Sumire Hoshino; piano solo by Toroku Takagi, and xylophone solo by Yoichi Hiraoka ccompanied by Jin Uyeda.

Obituary

Mrs. Masako Shirani, widow of Takeshi Shirani, former president of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and former president of the now defunct Government Steel Works at Yawata, died from illness at the Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital on February 19. She was 66 years old.

Ki Enjoji, director of the Shanghai Spinning and Weaving Company and of the Rinzan Mining Company, succumbed to illness at his Ebara home on February 17. He was 64 years old.

Dr. Kyosaku Takeda, 79, director of the Dai Nippon Mining Company, passed away at his Ebara home on February 16.

AIMS TO MINIMIZE DAMAGE

Advice Given on What to Do When B-29 Crashes in City

Some of the B-29's which were downed when they raided Tokyo on February 19 crashed in the city and caused damage to private houses. As such incidents will multiply in the future, a warning has been issued in this connection by the Metropolitan Police Board with the aim to minimize such damage, according to the Yomiuri-Hochi. The article runs:

When enemy planes are shot down overhead it is important to keep cool at such a time. As was seen on February 19, the planes fatally damaged come falling down either vertically or obliquely or like leaves fluttering in the wind. Nobody can say beforehand where a falling machine will strike the ground.

It is rather dangerous in such cases to run about this way or that in an attempt to escape from the falling plane. The best plan is to remain in an air-raid shelter. When an enemy plane disintegrates in the air, other objects as dangerous as the fragments of the plane itself will come down simultaneously. In such cases, members of the civil defense corps will give the alarm.

When enemy planes crash, bombs and incendiaries in the plane will explode with a terrific detonation, but when this detonation has been heard, the danger has already passed in most cases. So it is time to get out of the shelter, and put out the fire. A B-29, even when it strikes the ground, may still have four tons of gasoline, which will cause more damage than incendiary bombs.

When objects from a damaged B-29 fall to the ground, do not get near the objects out of curiosity, but report at once to the authorities. If a fire breaks out do your best to extinguish it.

TO REPAIR WATER PIPES

City Promises Action by End of Current Month

Good news for the householders is the promise of the City Water Works Bureau to repair all bursting water pipes due to freezing by the end of the month, even if it means the necessity of mobilizing the office force to carry out the promise.

The number of bursting pipes since the beginning of this winter have totalled 61,866 of which 43,477 have been fixed, leaving 18,389 pipes still unrepaired.

According to the City Water Works Bureau, in view of the fires which might be caused by enemy bombings, water pressure has been greatly increased. Because of the unprecedented cold prevailing this year there have been six times as many bursting pipes compared with other years, and it is expected there will be more freezing and bursting pipes until warmer weather sets in. The city asks that every precaution be paid to prevent as far as possible such ruptures.

5 New Army Appointments

Major General Noritake Tamura has been appointed Director of the Nagoya Army Arsenal, the War Ministry announced on Thursday. The following appointments were simultaneously announced by the same Ministry: Major General Toshinari Shoji as Director of the Recruitment Department of the Northeastern Army District, Major General Toyojiro Nakashiro as Director of the Recruitment Department of the Northern Army District, Major General Eiichiro Yoshino as Director of the Recruitment Department of the East Sea Army District, and Major General Noriaki Ono as Principal of the Osaka Military Preparatory School.

CREATE GOOD IMPRESSION

Shanghai Expects Much of Chou Fu-hai, Lo Chun-sin

The recent appointment by the Nanking Government of Chou Fu-hai as Mayor of Shanghai, and that of Lo Chun-sin as Chief Secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Office are creating a good impression in Shanghai official and private circles of Shanghai, according to a Shanghai dispatch to the Nippon Sangyo.

The quick solution of price problem, which is a source of worry to the Shanghai citizens, is anticipated and in this regard much is expected of Mr. Chou, who holds the concurrent posts of Finance Minister and Governor of the Central Reserve Bank of China, and of Mr. Lo, formerly Governor of Anhwei Province.

As a result of the enforcement of new measures against inflation prices of foodstuffs and other commodities have ceased to rise in Shanghai, the dispatch says. Both Mr. Chou and Mr. Lo in interviews with the Japanese press made the following announcements recently:

"Half or at least 30 per cent of 42,000 officials and employes of the Shanghai Municipal Office will be dismissed, while allowances for the remaining employes will be doubled or quadrupled. Court martial will be opened against dishonest city officials and employes. A population evacuation commission will be organized to evacuate superfluous population from Shanghai."

Planting Irish Potatoes

More than 430 hectares of rice paddies in the Okasa-gun, Suchi-gun and the southern section of Iwata-gun in Shizuoka Prefecture will be planted with Irish potatoes this spring. Cultivation work will be undertaken by XX Corps of the Eastern Army. Already, men have been dispatched to the various villages on the food increase assignment. The potato crop is expe[cted] to be some 1,000,000 kan. The various prefectural and district agricultural associations are also cooperating positively with the Army food production project.

Training for Widows

Applications are being received for enrolment in April at the training institute at Nishi-Okubo, Yodobashi-ku, run by the Military Relief Board for widows of fallen heroes. There will be additional classes in drafting, dietetics and public nurse courses from the new term for those who have been graduated from the girls' schools or are qualified nurses. The courses will last for six months or one year.

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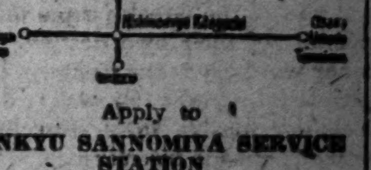

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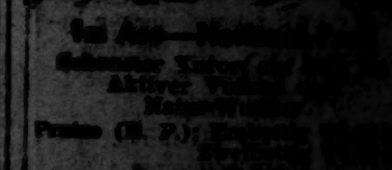

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Amery's Proposal for Economic Nationalism

British Secretary of State for India Leopold Amery urged on February 18 the adoption of tariffs and the abandonment or drastic revision of the most favored nation clause in international trade, states a Reuter's dispatch. Declaring that after the war Britain will no longer be able to live on "theories and assumptions which may have held good in the economic world of the nineteenth century", he urged that "we must give effective priority to purchases from the sterling area as well as to our exports to that area."

These remarks of the British Secretary of State for India deserve more than passing attention, particularly as they throw new light on the countermeasures which Britain is mapping out to meet the coming American competition in international commerce. They are significant in another [illegible] in that they represent a [illegible] violation of the terms of the Bretton Woods Agreement which advocated the removal of all trade barriers such as tariffs, foreign exchange restrictions and quotas. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the Anglo-American countries do not have the slightest intention to abide faithfully by the International Monetary Agreement although they are demanding the faithful adherence by the other [illegible] of the anti-Axis camp.

This new development is, indeed, [illegible] evidence of the hypocrisy of the Anglo-American countries whose leaders, particularly those of the United States, state that the Bretton Woods plan will lay a firm foundation for the sound development of international trade. It will be recalled that under the International Monetary Agreement the United States did not give any indication of her intention to revise her tariff schedules and that Britain reserved the right to maintain her preferential trade system in the British Empire. But the fact that the British should now propose the abandonment or revision of the favored nation clause in commercial treaties and advocate the tightening of the doors of the sterling areas to foreign trade competitors immediately following President Franklin Roosevelt's request for congressional approval of the Bretton Woods Agreement would seem to reflect Britain's intention to pursue a more independent economic course which would [illegible] her own trade position. This motive is understandable in view of the fact that the Bretton Woods plan in its present form, [illegible] as it does the predominant features of the American [illegible] Plan rather than the British [illegible] Plan, favors the expansion of American trade at the expense of [illegible] and other countries.

There is, to be sure, something to be said for Leopold Amery's [illegible] that the "theories and assumptions" of the nineteenth century economic world do not hold good today, for it is a patent fact that the principle of free trade [illegible] by the United States at Bretton Woods runs counter to the present trend of world economy. [illegible], at the same time, it is [illegible] that the present British [illegible] is hardly conducive to the development of international commerce. It would seem that the British as well as the [illegible] Governments are determined to carry out their own economic [illegible] which would ensure their own peoples larger incomes and profits. The welfare of the peoples of the rest of the world hardly enters into their [illegible]. By all indications, [illegible] economic measures [illegible] are being proposed by the Anglo-American countries supposedly to foster better and bigger trade for all tend to point to the return of economic nationalism of the pre-war type rather than universal world prosperity and well-being such as is the aim of the signatories of the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations.

The Unrest in Belgium

Although the Belgians succeeded on February 11 in forming a makeshift cabinet under the premiership of Achielle van Acker to succeed the Pierlot Cabinet which collapsed presumably because of the opposition between the conservative Catholic Party and the Socialist Party, the unrest in Belgium remains far from having been stilled. For whatever may have been the ostensible reason for the recent crisis, there can be no question that a fundamental reason for chronic instability lies inherent in the opposition of the majority of the Belgian people to the continuing British policy of interference.

It is an acknowledged fact that the Pierlot regime was an abject puppet of Britain. In fact, in the British scheme for the countries of Western Europe, Belgium was no more than a tool of British imperialism. Just before Prime Minister Winston Churchill's departure for Paris to confer with President Charles de Gaulle of France last November, it will be recalled that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden conferred with the Belgian and Dutch puppet leaders for the purpose of obtaining their consent to the formation of a four-nation bloc in Western Europe, consisting of Britain, France, Belgium and Holland. Another British scheme to anchor Belgium more securely within the British fold was the proposal of the London Times for the establishment of a joint military and economic committee among these four countries.

There was vigorous opposition among a strong section of the Belgian public against the cringing attitude of Premier Pierlot toward the British plans. The street fighting which took place in Brussels last December was a manifestation of the Belgian people's protest against the British-backed Pierlot regime. The Pierlot regime, using the time-old British method, tried to suppress the popular demonstration by employing British arms. But the opposition of the people toward Pierlot's policy was apparently greater than that regime had expected, and it was thus forced to resign to make way for the new Cabinet in which two Communist members have been admitted.

In a larger sense, the antagonism of the people of Belgium toward British domination is typical of the sentiment prevailing in the other countries of Europe which have been "liberated" by the Anglo-American Powers. In Greece, this sentiment has been expressed by the ELAS forces as a desire of the Greek people to be masters of their own destiny. In other words, it is the desire of the people of Greece as well as of Belgium to live their own lives without outside interference. It is apparently the belief of these peoples that Britain's traditional policy of interference in the affairs of Europe, which was the main reason for the outbreak of the present European War, may throw them again into the depths of agonizing sufferings and hardships and that their only salvation against this danger is to resist with all their force the present attempt of the British to dominate them.

By all indications, it would seem that the present political turmoil in the "liberated" countries of Europe is bound to continue as long as the Anglo-American countries persist in trampling on the principle of the Atlantic Charter which guarantees to the "freed" peoples the right to choose their own form of government. The formation of the new Cabinet in Belgium can thus mean very little in view of the fact that the Anglo-American Powers have no real intention of according true independence to the "liberated" countries of Europe.

A Year Ago Today

February 23, 1944

The Turkish Government has declined to grant petroleum exploration concessions sought by the American oil companies consisting of three Standard Oil companies, reliable circles declare, according to a dispatch from Ankara.

U.S. BUSINESS IN 1944

War Devours Stocks at Breakneck Speed

II

At first the explanation was that new army and navy tactics, plus new discoveries, demanded new weapons. But when Krug put "freeze" on any more civilian production, explanation of new tactics was not enough. Complex explanation boiled down to grim fact; the productive miracle of industry was being outdone by the wasteful miracle of war.

Shortages were not still in front but war was devouring stockpiles faster than the industry was replenishing them. Perhaps, war was eating its last meal and would soon die, of surfeit—or perhaps not. Until the outcome was known more production was needed. More production meant the building of more plants would be needed. But from smugly: War machine is built. In August WPB still thought no new plants would be needed. But from November on as German resistance stiffened into a crashing offensive, the army hastily reconsidered.

Krug had dumped on his desk, plans to build one billion dollars worth of new war plants. These would be for high octane gas (octane shortage has been "solved" months ago), for tires (rubber problem has been "solved"), for jet motors and scores of brand new weapons.

Few of these plants would be operating for at least, seven months. In the meantime, WPB planned to take facilities out of the civilian production. This would hurt. Much of the fat was gone from the civilian cupboard.

For example, the hoard of new passenger cars (530,000 in 1942) was below 15,000. After three years of war, civilians might be finally pinched hard. How long the pinch would last, none in WPB would guess.

The Department of Commerce predicted that the war production this year, based on present schedules, will drop below that of 1944. But this will happen only if the present schedules remain unchanged.

Probabilities are that many of them will be changed—upwards. As the year closed the lesson was plain for all United States to read; for war there is never enough.

Others could not afford being too far behind. The most important, the United States industry probably would not be hampered by any complex system of quotas which would protect the established companies at the price of freezing out the new companies and competition.

At the beginning of the year business was highly suspicious that wartime controls would be somehow kept shackled on them in peace. But at the year's end this seemed to be more shadow than substance.

Business to Move Voice

The second big idea was that peace, when it comes, is not one for diplomats or military men to plan alone. It must be also planned by business. Their stake in peace is to do what has not been done before: to try to operate profitably the economy of the world as a whole.

In the past, almost without exception, world economy never has been operated; rather, it has been operated on by nations in the process of trying to improve their individual economies—a procedure as shortsighted as the long outdated notion that a company can be operated without regarding the welfare of its customers or its suppliers.

At Bretton Wood's Monetary Conference, 44 nations undertook the devising scheme to prove some kinds of individual tinkering with the world economy.

A significant fact was that the attention was being given to the biggest problem; making the whole world's economy work. And the United States businessmen, if critical, were still open to argument.

Likewise, the United States businessmen announced again and again during the year that they like their own idea of free competitive enterprise better than international cartels which often constricted the world's economy. On this they should form common grounds with the administration which is vigorously prosecuting anti-thrust suits against match manufacturers, potash producers and etc. as Cartelists. But some of the government trade experts, studying international business prosperity were beginning flirting with and ideas that long term agreements on prices and markets were necessary, especially if the United States is to compete effectively with Western Europe.

Others laid plans to try imposing anti-Cartelism of the United States, which many foreign businessmen consider naive.

The third big idea which many men, for the first time, considered as a practical possibility was one which commonly goes by the inadequate name: full employment. Its implication is not only a job for everyone who wants to work but also continuous full productivity for the economic machine and abolition of evils which mankind long considered far less avoidable than war; depression.

(To Be Continued)

U.S. ECONOMY: A SELF-CONTRADICTION

Course for America Is to Lower Tariff Walls Which Are Highest in the World

By KAORU HARA

II

Free economy based on the gold standard which the United States espouses can be realized only when each country applies itself strenuously to such lines of industry in which it has special skill and efficiency and when the wants of all countries are mutually met in this manner. All artificial policies such as subsidies, high tariffs and arbitrary regulation of foreign exchange and trade, which are irreconcilable with economic rationalism, must be resolutely liquidated. America's exhortations to all foreign Governments to refrain from all artificial economic manipulations in the name of free competition show that she is not totally blind to this necessity.

Consistency then demands that she should herself concentrate on the production of machinery and motor-cars, in which she excels. In regard to shipping, in which she cannot compete with other countries because of her high maintenance costs, she should adopt the policy of utilizing the shipping of foreign countries which can offer services more cheaply, except in cases where she needs her own shipping for the maintenance of her coast-wise lines. It is accordingly incumbent on her to abstain most conscientiously from all attempts to maintain, by subsidies, her inefficient shipping. Her present policy is unjust as it deprives small but efficient maritime nations of their means of existence.

Should Lower Tariffs

The proper course she should follow is certainly to lower her tariff walls which are the highest in the world, to discard her artificial protective policy and to readjust her industrial structure in accordance with the comparative cost of production principle. In this way and in this way only can all countries of the world be made to derive benefits from free competition, their standard of living raised, equilibrium established in international accounts and the operation of the gold standard rendered possible. Even small countries with limited resources will then be able to safeguard their existence by their trade and shipping.

Not until she shapes her course along these lines will the United States be really entitled to talk of world peace. In such a world, each country would have its proper place and its security be assured. What America is actually doing is just the contrary, however. Notwithstanding the fact that she is all eagerness to force free economy on the world and to compel all countries to open their markets, she is herself taking a course which does violence to the fundamentals of free economy. Her intended course of action is, indeed, destructive of the economic equilibrium of the world and undermines the basis of world peace.

This deplorable trend of the American economic policy is rooted in the fact that she possesses enormous productive power and that she is apparently intent on maintaining her high level of employment and high standard of living through the utilization of this productive power. This trend is difficult of amelioration as it is encouraged by America's design to strengthen her defenses by maintaining her productivity by artificial means. As world economy cannot but be affected by American economy, the future of world economy must be regarded with decided pessimism.

The American authorities themselves must be aware of the fact that their policy is bound to accentuate disequilibrium in world economy, and if, this notwithstanding, America finds it difficult, for political and strategic reasons, to readjust her production policy along the lines of economic rationalism or economic liberalism, she will have to resort to some other means to achieve equilibrium in international economy.

Methods Are Presented

The methods which America may devise in this connection will be (1) to acquire and exploit foreign resources, important strategic resources especially, and import and accumulate them at home, while trying to preserve her own resources for consumption as far as possible, with a view to safeguarding her future defense, and (2) to carry on overseas investments extensively—investments in enterprises especially—and reinvest the profits accruing therefrom as much as possible overseas, so as steadily to promote the international expansion of her enterprises. Such a course accords both with her cherished desire to dominate the world and with what is called her frontier spirit. In fact, there are indications that America's policy is moving in this direction. In this sense, America's policy on natural resources and investments is destined to produce far-reaching effects on world economy and world politics. Let us first study her investment policy a little further.

Whereas Britain has attained her greatness as an international merchant or international financier, America has achieved her development as exploiter or industrialist, as her history of international investments eloquently attests. Her chief fields of investments have been Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean region and the Central and South American countries where she can make her political influence felt.

From the necessity of promoting this policy, America will most probably extend her investments on a larger scope after the war and proceed to exploit the resources as well as develop her enterprises widely in the world. In view of the fact that the American industry is actually under the control of a small number of monopolistic capitalists, these international enterprises will of necessity pass under the control of American "konzern," and if these capitalists go on expanding their investments abroad by reinvesting their profits, the economy of the countries in which these investments are made must gradually fall under the sway of big American capital. There is even a strong possibility that the independence of these countries will be encroached upon by this American capitalistic as well as a cultural offensive. That is to say, while Britain's investments served to create mutually complementary economic relations with the countries or colonies in which they were made, America's investments tend to reduce the independent countries to a colonial status and further to bring them under her control.

Useful to Backward Nations

This form of overseas investments is evidently inapplicable to the present world of modern sovereign States where capitalism is well developed, but it can very effectually be applied to semi-independent and backward countries. America will, therefore, direct her main attention, as fruitful fields of activity, to the small countries in Asia and the Near East, particularly to the Asiatic countries like China and India which, on account of their plentiful resources and their dense populations, give promise of very profitable markets. When Morgenthau stated at the Bretton Woods Conference last summer that the aim of the discussion was to bring the stagnant world economy back into a dynamic condition, he gave voice to America's intention to make East Asia "the New World" of the twentieth century, just as the American Continent, as "the New World" of the nineteenth century for Britain and other European countries, contributed to the maintenance of the free economic order. It means that America is planning to convert the Pacific into a "Caribbean Sea" for the protection of American capital. For the furtherance of her ambition in this regard, America is trying to gain the goodwill of Chungking in various ways. As one example, we may mention the fact that in fixing the order of States in the Monetary Fund plan and in the World Bank plan, the United States, from no other motive than to win its heart, gave Chungking fourth place which the latter hardly deserves.

What merits special attention is how far the process of industrialization with American capital will be carried out and what will be its possible consequences. It is quite natural, in the light of the fact that capitalism seeks the expansion of markets, that in their investment policy industrial countries will generally tend to check the rise in the world of industries which are competitive with their own. This tendency has been markedly manifest in the colonial economic policies of the European countries. America can be no exception to this rule. The one point of difference between the European countries and America is that whereas the European countries attach importance to the light industries, America's special line is industries capable of mass production, the heavy industries and the electrical machinery industry especially. In the light industries requiring much labor, America can have little hope of successfully competing with the foreign countries because of her high cost of production. Since her market is protected by a high prohibitive tariff, however, she need not dread the growth of the light industries in foreign countries; she rather welcomes it, as it helps forward the exports of her capital goods and raw materials.

(To Be Continued)

The Great Mistake

Colonel Southblood: "Yes, suh, he got mad an' called me a derned old bareface scoundrel."

Colonel Bluegrass: "Well, he's slightly mistaken, suh. You've got a goatee an' moustache."

ON THE BURMA FRONT

Chiang's Men Have Sold Their Birthright for U.S. Domination

By HIROSHI MUNETA*

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The peculiar feature of the Burma war front is that our Imperial Forces are fighting the Britons, Americans and Chungking soldiers at the same time. Those who make a round of the Burma fronts are surprised by the different nationalities in the enemy forces. On the Indo-Burmese border we find the British troops, the Indian troops, and the West African negro troops. On the Chinese-Burmese front we find the Chinese Yunnan expeditionary army, the American troops and the Americanized Chungking troops.

These enemy forces have different equipment, uniforms and speak divergent languages. They adopt different weapons, so that utmost confusion prevails along the enemy fronts. At the war prisoner barracks, one finds the prisoners in a motley uniform and all come to the Japanese guards in turn to make complaints of their own fellow prisoners. At first, we thought that they did so in order to court the goodwill of the Japanese guards by talking ill of their own men, but we soon found that they had some ground for complaining thus. However, such complaints do not sound pleasant to our Japanese ears, since they all had but a few days before been fighting shoulder to shoulder in the same camp. I long waited for some proud enemy prisoner who would make no such a complaint of their own men but I failed to meet one.

Chinese Were Gallant

In the first stage of the China Affair, we often met Chinese war prisoners who would stretch out their necks, arrogantly demanding us to behead them. Other Chinese soldiers committed suicide by blasting themselves by means of hand-grenades, for they were ashamed of becoming prisoners. I saw such brave Chinese soldiers several times at the little town of Taichichuang. It was to such gallant Chinese soldiers that our forces built "the monuments to the unknown Chinese heroes" at the very spot where they died so gallantly, because our soldiers were so much impressed by their brave and patriotic deeds. Every time we met such Chinese soldiers we felt akin with them, or we felt their Oriental spirit, you might say, and realized that Japanese should join hands with the Chinese and we truly regretted that we were meeting them in the battlefield.

It is the brothers of such gallant Chinese who are fighting on the Burma front. But we wonder why those Chinese fighting in Burma fail to show the lofty spirit that their brothers in the China Affair displayed. Just as our spirit of fighting has been elevated since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, we thought that of the Chinese soldiers must have been raised, but actually the situation was just the opposite on the Burma front. After paying many visits to China, I came to the Chinese-Burmese border and was surprised by the spaciousness of China and I felt a sort of kinship to the Chinese soldiers there. But I was also surprised by the debased condition of these Chinese soldiers. Sure enough, they looked fine with their military uniforms and badges on their arms and breast indicating the company and regiment to which they belong. Their weapons, canteens and shoes had "Made in U.S.A." marks. They had up-to-date helmets, also bearing the mark "U.S.A." In short, they looked like fine soldiers as far as their appearances went. But in exchange with this modern military equipment, they had sold their Oriental souls. It is almost unbelievable that these Chinese soldiers with their up-to-date American equipment and weapons who have been disciplined and trained according to American methods are much weaker in the field of battle than those Chinese who, despite their shabby civilian clothes and old-type firearms, put up such a gallant fight in the initial stage of the China Affair.

Made Japanese Examples

In his instructions to his army officers and men in the first of August, last year, Chiang Kai-shek told them to take as their model the fighting spirit of the Japanese Garrison Forces who fought to the last man on the Chinese-Burmese borders. Referring to the conditions of his own troops, he said: "But our garrison forces have been unable to defend ever their most impregnable positions. As soon as they are placed in a disadvantageous position, they would immediately retreat to a place of safety or they would give up their resistance and become war prisoners. And very few of them fight to the last until they are exhausted."

Chiang Kai-shek had a good reason for so wailing. I greatly regret to see the Chinese soldiers who have sold their Oriental souls for modern weapons and ample material supplies. Lin Yu-tang has recently said: "The experiences China has been undergoing during the present wartime conditions indicate that whatever organization of international cooperation may be created for the postwar period, no peace will be given her. The reason is very simple; China after all is an Oriental country." It is perhaps idle prattle to urge such Chinese soldiers to go back to the Orient.

"Heroes, never regret the lot that may befall you on your way to your fatherland!"

These are the words of Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the National Army of India, which he delivered to his men upon the departure of his troops for the Imphal Front.

With their tri-color flag of the spinning wheel waving high, the Indian troops advanced toward their fatherland, shoulder to shoulder with our Imperial Forces. Their numbers were not very large and their main activities consisted in, reconnoitering and securing information about enemy activities. But the advance of their national flag was a great pertarbation to the British. The enemy kept an eagle's eye even on their Indian soldiers within their own forces and frequently reorganized them. The West African negroes were mixed with the Indian soldiers. So were the Gurkhi soldiers hailing from the kingdom of Nepal. They are cat's-paws for the British. Moreover, there were many quarrels among these Indians and the British, so that further reorganization was necessary. It was back in 1740 that Britain first adopted the Indians as her soldiers when she competed against France for domination over India. At the rebellion of sepoys in 1857, there were 42,200 British soldiers against 243,000 Indian soldiers.

Indians Hard to Control

In recent times it became increasingly difficult to control the Indian soldiers so that the percentage of British troops in India has been increased.

I was very curious to learn about the food for Hindu and Mohammedan soldiers. When I paid a visit to the barracks of the Indian National Army at a certain point in Malai, I was shown by a certain major the menu of the Hindu soldiers which did not contain any dish of meat or pork.

Hindus not only never eat meat but they cannot stand seeing cows killed. But no such custom is observed by the Mohammedans. Some of them eat meat but they abstain from eating pork. They think it is better to die than to be forced to wash a dish in which pork was served. The Hindus drink, but the Mohammedans are prohibitionists," he said.

The baffling nature of the religious problem between the Hindus and the Mohammedans in India is beyond our imagination. The recent meeting between Mahatma Gandhi and Mohamed Jinnah seems to have ended in a complete failure. This meeting was of political significance. It is well known that the Hindus and Mohammedans are on bad terms and that this has been utilized by Britain in carrying out her policy of "divide and rule" and in her policy of exploitation in India. But on the battle front, in the Indian National Army, there is no religious difference between them, for they all are "Indians" above anything else. They endeavor to conduct themselves as soldiers rather than as Hindus or Mohammedans. When they have no food, the Hindus would eat beef and the Mohammedans would eat pork. But this requires a great determination. One may laugh when it is said that they must show great determination to eat meat, but such is the fact.

I recall what happened in our camp while we were stationed at a place along the Indo-Burmese border. Shortly after the arrival of General Rain, we found ourselves faced by an increasing shortage of food supplies. So were the Indians themselves. The flooding of the rivers, had roads and the enemy's air attacks cut our food supply. We had to eat unhulled rice, snakes and roots of plants.

Sends Up a Wail

One day a certain Indian corporal called on us. He had a cow with him. He was a native of Punjab and could speak a little Japanese. "Let us kill the cow," he said in broken Japanese. I asked him if he would kill it. He said, we should. We then learned the Indian soldiers decided to kill a cow because of their shortage of food. We then consented to slaughter the cow.

The slaughtering took place in a nearby jungle. The Indian corporal stood behind a large tree, with his face covered by his hands. He was shivering as if he were suffering from malaria fever. Evidently he was looking at our action between his fingers, for, as we drove the dagger into the cow's forehead, the corporal sent up a wail and collaped at the foot of the tree he was standing by. I recalled in mind the great Indian riot following the killing of a sacred cow in India.

"They are eating their beefsteaks with an expression of anguish," said one of my comrades who just returned from a visit to the mess hall of the Indian. But this was no joke, I said to myself. I then thought of the bravery with which the Indian soldiers are fighting against their enemy and their own religious and racial customs for the glory of their fatherland.

Why the Sale Fell

A farmer was trying to sell his horse. After exercising it, he exclaimed to his prospective buyer: "Don't you admire his coat?"

"Coat's all right," said the prospect, "but I don't care for the pants."

PRESS COMMENTS

Thursday, February 22

AMERICAN SCHEMING AND SOVIET UNION

ASAHI—The "Big Three" Conference has advanced the collaboration among America, Britain and the Soviet Union one step forward. The Polish issue, which had been termed the "cancer" in the trilateral relations, and all the other outstanding problems confronting the three Powers have been solved by a compromise with the Soviet Union getting the real "contents," so to speak, and the Anglo-Americans getting the empty containers. This, however, is confined to the problems requiring speedy solutions; the most important political problems remain as yet unsolved. Only relative solutions have been attained, but no absolute ones.

Concerning the problem of Europe's fate, apart from a relative solution, no fundamental solution has been reached. This is due to the differences in the policies of the three Powers toward Europe which are rooted deeply in the national character of these Powers.

The United States is opposed to a division of influence over Europe. The party which has a very great interest in such a division of influence in Europe, is Britain who is desirous of adhering to imperialism of the old type. From the viewpoint of her own independent policy vis-a-vis Europe, the Soviet Union also is opposed to this plan of division, which fact was revealed in her action in smashing the British scheme of a Western Europe bloc.

In the same way that America adopted the principles of the Open Door and of equal opportunity in China, her policy vis-a-vis Europe also is that of the Open Door to be applied not only in the economic, but also in the political fields of Europe. In other words, she would like to dominate and control Europe politically as well as economically. This indeed, is the policy and ambition of the United States vis-a-vis East Asia and the whole world.

And America also uses her economic power as a trump card for opposing, stemming, or influencing the Soviet Union's moves in Europe which have been growing with the backing of real power. So far, America and Britain have, through economic pressure and intimidation, been forcefully dragging into the anti-Axis camp a few European countries who attempted to maintain their neutrality.

The Soviet Union has now started to make all-out efforts for the rehabilitation of her national territories which have been destroyed by the war. It is not surprising that for this rehabilitation the Soviet Union is taking an interest in economic and technical aid from the United States. On the occasion of the extension of the U.S.-Soviet Armament Lend-Lease Agreement for the current year, the Soviet Union demanded from the United States a huge supply of heavy industrial machinery and equipment. Apart from this, it is reported that negotiations are now in progress concerning the supply of a credit amounting to $6,000,000,000, all probably intended for the rehabilitation of her territories.

However, thus far the United States has hesitated to comply with those requests because at heart she is afraid that this will strengthen the Soviet Union still more, and also because she perceives in an economically strengthened Soviet Union, a competitor to be greatly feared. On this point alone, a deep inconsistency can be discovered in the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

However, what deserves attention in this connection is that America, utilizing the economic assistance to the Soviet Union, is scheming to estrange the Soviet Union from Japan and to lure her into the East Asiatic area. She is already scheming to suppress the nations of East Asia which are being liberated from the Anglo-American plutocratic domination.

The point at issue is the Soviet Union's response. In the communique on the Crimea Conference, nothing is mentioned about this issue although both America and Britain are certain to have brought it up as a matter of course. Moreover, when the Anti-Axis Labor Union Conference recently held in London adopted a resolution on the prosecution of the war against Japan, the Soviet Union was, in accordance with a request by the Soviet Delegate, left out. All this reveals the prudent judgment and precaution of the Soviet Union vis-a-vis the world situation.

The usual methods of America and Britain to use economic pressure or economic bait may be suitable for influencing neutral countries. However, in the case of a country like the Soviet Union which possesses real strength and is firmly maintaining an independent world policy, the effect of this scheming on the part of the United States is questionable.

Perfectly True

"Well, Bill," asked a neighbor, "I hear the boss has a fever. How's his temperature today?"

The hired man scratched his head and decided not to commit himself.

"It ain't for me to say," he replied, "but the boss died last night."